



## 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

SB2696

Introduced 1/10/2024, by Sen. Julie A. Morrison

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/12-807.3 new

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that a school district or a school bus company under contract with a school district shall not operate a Type I or Type II school bus manufactured after the effective date of the bill unless the bus is equipped with a set of 3-point seat belts or any other federally approved restraint system in good operating condition for each passenger seat and a rooftop safety hatch. Provides that, on or after January 1, 2028, all newly purchased school buses shall be equipped with 3-point seat belts or any other federally approved restraint system in good operating condition for each passenger. Provides that the provision shall not apply to a school bus that is legally registered in another state and displaying valid registration plates of that state if the bus is not operated in Illinois on a regular basis and the bus is operated in Illinois in connection with a cultural, tourist, athletic, or other similar activity for students enrolled in a school located outside of the State. Provides that nothing in the provision shall make a school district or a school bus company liable for a passenger's failure to properly adjust or fasten a seat belt or other restraint system. Effective immediately.

LRB103 35976 MXP 66063 b

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by adding  
5 Section 12-807.3 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/12-807.3 new)

7 Sec. 12-807.3. Seat safety belts; rooftop safety hatch.

8 (a) A school district or a school bus company under  
9 contract with a school district shall not operate a Type I or  
10 Type II school bus manufactured after the effective date of  
11 this amendatory Act of the 103rd General Assembly unless that  
12 bus is equipped with a set of 3-point seat belts or any other  
13 federally approved restraint system under 49 CFR 571.222 in  
14 good operating condition for each passenger seat and a rooftop  
15 safety hatch. On or after January 1, 2028, all newly purchased  
16 school buses shall be equipped with 3-point seat belts or any  
17 other federally approved restraint system under 49 CFR 571.222  
18 in good operating condition for each passenger. The Department  
19 shall adopt rules governing the standards for the seat belts  
20 and belt anchorages.

21 (b) This Section shall not apply to a school bus that is  
22 legally registered in another state and displaying valid  
23 registration plates of that state if the bus is not operated in

1 Illinois on a regular basis and the bus is operated in Illinois  
2 in connection with a cultural, tourist, athletic, or other  
3 similar activity for students enrolled in a school located  
4 outside of the State.

5 (c) Nothing in this Section shall make a school district  
6 or a school bus company liable for a passenger's failure to  
7 properly adjust and fasten a seat belt or other restraint  
8 system under this Section.

9 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
10 becoming law.